



Saguaro National Park News Release

12-08

For Immediate Release

December 27, 2011

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SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK AND SOUTHERN ARIZONA ROADRUNNERS TEAM UP FOR 5K RUN

As part of the BEYOND event on January 7, 2012

Tucson, AZ— Saguaro National Park and Southern Arizona Roadrunners is teaming up for a **FREE, non-competitive 5K social walk/run** among the saguaros in the park's Tucson Mountain District (Saguaro West), from 8:00am to 10:00am, as part of the **BEYOND: * Commemorate * Celebrate * Commit**, event on Saturday, January 7, 2012.

Entrance Fees will be waived for both the Tucson and Rincon Mountain Districts that day.

Runners and walkers of all ages and abilities are invited. The course will be along the Bajada Loop Drive in the park's west district and will include rolling dirt roads and plenty of gorgeous National Park scenery. The start time is at 8:00 a.m. The run will not be timed, but participants must register. This event is limited to 400 participants, and registration details can be found at www.azroadrunners.org.

The events of January 8, 2011 shook the Tucson community to the core, affecting each of us deeply. But in the months after, members of Gabe Zimmerman's family and a diverse coalition of community partners came together to craft a positive response to the tragedy. **BEYOND: * Commemorate * Celebrate * Commit** was created to get Tucsonans, especially young people, outside to promote physical and behavioral well-being. On this first anniversary, there will be opportunities to walk, hike, run, stroll, be artistic, learn new skills, and generally come together as a community at over 25 sites across Greater Tucson and Southern Arizona region.

"Saguaro National Park is honored to be one of the many community partners taking part in BEYOND: *** Commemorate * Celebrate * Commit**," said Superintendent Darla Sidles. "It is a wonderful way to bring us together, committing to a stronger community and being active within the beautiful surroundings around the Tucson area."

The start/finish area for the event will be located at the Kinney and Hohokam Road intersection. Participants should plan on parking on Kinney Road, northwest of the Red Hills Visitor Center.

For more information about the 5K Run, please contact Natalie Luna Rose at Natalie_Rose@nps.gov or (520) 733-8602. To learn more about **BEYOND**, please go to www.beyond-tucson.org.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

WHO: Saguaro National Park and Southern Arizona Roadrunners.
WHAT: A 5K Run Among the Saguaros, as part of the BEYOND event.
WHERE: Tucson Mountain District, 2700 N. Kinney Road, Tucson.
WHEN: January 7th, 2012 at 8:00 a.m.

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About the National Park Service – More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 397 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.